

Application No. 10/081,478
Amdt. Dated May 30, 2006
Reply to Office Action of December 27, 2006

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1-20 Canceled.

21. (New) An implantable article for separation and regeneration of tissue at a tissue defect site comprising microtextured upper and lower surfaces; said upper surface comprising grooves and ridges having a width and a height of about 2 to about 10 microns, proportioned to a cell morphology of soft tissue cells; and said lower surface comprising grooves and ridges having a width and a height of about 8 to about 25 microns, proportioned to a cell morphology of bone tissue cells for promoting bone tissue growth; said article being substantially planar and biocompatible.

22. (New) The article of claim 21, said article has a thickness of between about 200 and about 500 microns.

23. (New) The article of claim 22, said article is flexible.

24. (New) The article of claim 21, wherein said article is bioabsorbable.

25. (New) The article of claim 21, wherein said article is made of at least one material selected from the group consisting of polylactic acid homopolymers, polyglycolic acid co-polymers, polylactones, polypeptides, polyvinyl alcohols, Hench's bioglass, fibrinogen and polyimino-carbonate, and natural polymers including collagen and polysaccharides.

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26. (New) The article of claim 25, wherein a weight of said material is in a range of one to five grams/cm².

27. (New) The article of claim 21, wherein said lower surface has osteoconductive chemical properties.